To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:  SUBJECT: SAVE ONTARIO'S HERITAGE

Whereas in 2016, Halton Region closed the Halton Regional Museum and promised $8 million to build a heritage centre but in 2024 removed the $8 million from its budget without public or professional consultation, and in 2025 the cities of Brampton and Mississauga, and the Town of Caledon requested the Region of Peel initiate transition of ownership and operations of the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA) to the City of Brampton without knowledge of the costs and legal constraints and before significant public or professional consultation;

And whereas transfer of 35,000 (Halton) and 14,000 (Peel) museum objects/documents is unrealistic because of limited budgets and staff and overcrowded storage of impacted local institutions, simply downloads the costs to lower-tier governments, and will lead to the loss of heritage

**Therefore, the undersigned petition the Legislative Assembly as follows:**
To ensure municipal governments comply with mandates to conserve heritage and prevent loss of museum artifacts/archival documents under *Standards for Community Museums in Ontario* (Citizenship and Multiculturalism) and guidelines/practices established by the Provincial Archivist

To introduce legislation to protect Ontario museum/archival collections held by museums and other organizations such as local heritage services from dispersal and sale and to consult with museum and heritage professionals in the creation of this legislation

To ensure Halton and Peel Region follow the *Ontario Heritage Act* to hold Indigenous archaeological items in public institutions in trust for Ontarians

To ensure Halton Region Council follows the *Municipal Act* and its own Public Engagement Model to post notices in advance and hold meaningful public consultation about these issues

We represent a group of heritage workers, historians, Halton and Peel Region residents, and Ontarians opposed to closing Halton Heritage Services and the transfer of PAMA to Brampton.

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